that had arisen as a consequence of accelerated demand for renewable energy systems/devices that emanated out of either a positive environment that had been created in the State or on account of affirmative action on this Ministry's part. Moreover, most Renewable Energy State Nodal Agencies did not exist at the time of creation of regional offices. Most objectives set for the regional offices have been attained. Since this Ministry is facing an acute shortage of scientific manpower, the need, therefore, has been felt to rationalize the regional office set up. However, in effecting the rationalization, it would be ensured that progress in the States is tracked on a continuous basis, even through the Renewable Energy State Nodal Agencies that have been specifically set up for the purpose.

\Potential of wind energy in Uttaranchal

†2415. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been carried out regarding the wind energy generation potential in the State of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the areas in the State which have the potential of wind energy generation;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated for exploitation of the potential; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Wind resource assessments have been carried out at 11 locations in Uttaranchal and one potential site has been identified in the State, namely Bachelikhal in Tehri Garhwal district of Uttaranchal, which is considered suitable for installation of wind power project of 2 MW capacity.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has been implementing a Wind Energy Programme which aims at utilizing wind energy mainly for generation of grid power. The programme provides for partial financial assistance for undertaking survey and assessment of wind resources, setting up of limited demonstration projects and support to Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET). Fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation, concessional customs duty on certain components, term loan from Indian Renewable

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Energy Development Agency, excise duty exemption etc. are also available to private developers and manufacturers for setting up of commercial wind farm projects. As regards exploitation of the potential in the State of Uttaranchal, the State Government is examining the detailed project report prepared for the identified site for implementation.

Review of power situation

†2416. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to review the situation of power generation keeping in view the power crisis in north India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such projects where power generation is less than their established capacity; and

(d) the reasosn therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) The electricity generation as well as power supply position in the country including that of Northern Region is reviewed on regular basis. In view of various initiatives taken by the Government, energy shortage in the country has declined from 8.8% in 2002-03 to 7.1 % in 2003-04 and 6.8% in 2004-05 till December 2004.

Power shortages in the country including Northern Region are due to the growth in generation capacity addition not keeping pace with the growth in demand. In the Northern Region though overall generation during the period April 04'-January 05' has been almost as per the target, generation from hydro power stations under various utilities in the Northern Region has been less than the target by 11.8% resulting in shortfall of 4250 million Units. Low hydro generation has been mainly due to reduced inflows and relatively less snowfall/snowmelt particularly in the catchment region of Bhakra reservoir.

(c) Generation targets of power stations are fixed by the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the individual power utilities, every year. The names of power stations in the country which have not generated as per their targets during the period April 04'-January 05' are in the enclosed Statement (See below).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.